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JC/REC'D PCT/PTO 19 JAN 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HM-388PCT

Applicant(s) : Günter Kneppel; et al
Serial No. : NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP99/02830PCT/EP99/05116)
Int. Filed : April 27, 1999 JULY 17, 1999
For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR GUIDING AND SUPPORTING A
THIN SHEET OR METAL STRIP

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

L. Nelson
#6/Pre Amdt. A
8-10-01

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

In advance of the first office action, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

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Claim 1, line 5, change "characterized in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 2, line 2, change "characterized in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 3, line 1, change "claim 1 or 2, characterized in that" to --claim 1, wherein--.

Claim 4, line 1, change "one or several of the claims 1 to 3," to --claim 1,--;

line 2, change "characterized in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 5, line 1, change "one or several of the claims 1 to 3," to --claim 1,--;

line 2, change "characterized in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 6, line 1, change "one or several of the claims 1 to 4," to --claim 1,--;

line 2, change "characterized in that" to --wherein--.